

11/7/66

Dear Miss Brunson,

I'm always impressed when I see poetry, a skillin which I never got beyond the doggerel stage except by accident and then in only an occasional line.

While I am busy-too busy- it is not an intrusion and some of your ideas are quite interesting. I wish I had time to follow some of them with you. I will, however, get for you anything that is available in the National Archives (in a way addressing the end of your letter). Xeroxed copies are 20 cents a sheet. If it is an exhibit, the last thing in Vol 26 gives the document number, and from that I can get it. If it is not an exhibit, a good description may suffice.

We grind the same axe. We must clean this up. It is possible in so doing we achieve other ends.

There is one area in which I've never been able to spend the time I'd have liked. The Commission does not make it easy to trace subjects. I'd like to know what the evidence has on the radical right in Texas -names of members and groups, activities, associations with Cuban refugees (and groups). There are a number of things I've never been able to do what I'd like about, because I've tried to span the field, and that's pretty big. Do you recall any reference by any of the doctors, especially those in Dallas, in either statements or testimony, about surgery of any kind on the President's head? This may mean nothing, but one of the FBI agents at the autopsy reported the signs of it were visible.

I have difficulty believing that Mrs. Paine can figure in this in any kind of a conspiratorial way. Yet there are strange aspects, aside from those you point out. For example, I believe she was also to pay Marina something, like \$10.00 a week. Rather strange if she took Marina in as an act of generosity or just to get experience in speaking Russian.

The deeper I get into this the more certain I become that Oswald didn't know the President was going to be assassinated. If anything in the record is credible, he ~~surely~~ certainly killed nobody.

My approach is somewhat different. I do not intend to solve the crime; I intend to get it solved, in a way that can and will be credited. To accomplish this I first destroyed the Report, hoping that attention to the evidence in the book would get things going in that direction. After WHITEWASH was out for a while I decided I had other responsibilities: first, to go further with what I had, and this I do to quite a degree in the new book; second, to show how the Whitewash was brought about. This I think I do overwhelmingly. It is, I think, an even more shocking story. I hope it will be available before too long. I'm waiting to hear from a publisher. If his decision is negative or his offer is unacceptable, I have another who wants to talk to me and if there is nothing fast and good from him I'll go it alone again.

Much of the new book is from the archive. I've spent every minute I could spare in it, letting the current book go to do it. It has been costly, for we've not broken even yet. While there is too much still and improperly secret (I've just written two long magazine pieces on this) there is a treasure-trove of excellent data that I've tapped hard but have no way of knowing what there is I've no inkling of. The descriptions are meaningless or deceptive. You've got to work by instinct.

The new announcements are cans of wriggling worms, more deception. Most of the stuff is plain junk. It is a propaganda device, as is the transfer of the Xrays and pictures. In each case, the real end is suppression...What Johnson really did was to try and pass the buck to Bobby. He said of himself "I know of no evidence..." not that there is none. He kept the back door open. Sincerely, Harold Weisberg

November 4, 1966

Mr. Harold Weisberg  
Hyattstown, Md.

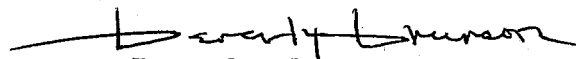
Dear Mr. Weisberg:

Forgive my intrusions; I know how busy you are; and, frankly, I would rather write poetry. I want you to know that I have no axe to grind and no interest in this case beyond that it be solved and the foreign policy of this country changed. I do not expect you to answer me formally - or at all - unless I am of use. In that case, I would be glad to know it, of course.

I have attached certain observations on testimony and material regarding Mrs. Ruth Paine. The last paragraph is, in my opinion, important - provided of course it is not a problem which, outside of my knowledge, has already been solved.

As I have said, I am interested primarily in studying areas that if investigated might turn up something beyond mere theory - some activity or document the investigation of which would not merely cast doubt on the official line, but also serve positively, as a key to unlock or at least reopen the case. Thus, my concentration on the "Walker" letter, since I believe it refers to an activity of Oswald as yet undisclosed; and, in the case of the attached, Mrs. Paine's "copy" of Oswald's Nov. 9th rough draft to the CPA - which I hope is still in existence and available for study.

Sincerely,

  
Beverly Brunson

*I saw you NBC-TV - and was wildly grateful to know that you are working away in the National Archives. I would love to know more about Whitewash II.*

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*What does it mean that the Attorney General has ordered the government to take possession of all the evidence in this case? Good or bad?*

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*I heard in the noon news that President Johnson has stated that he is fully satisfied with the Warren Report. He has another think coming - I am even going to look very rigorously into the possibility that he was in on it. How did Moyes get out of Austin & onto his Ford so fast?*